YouTube Removes 2020 Election Questioning Upon Safe Harbor Deadline

tonyodarg.wordpress.com/2020/12/09/youtube-safe-harbor-deadline

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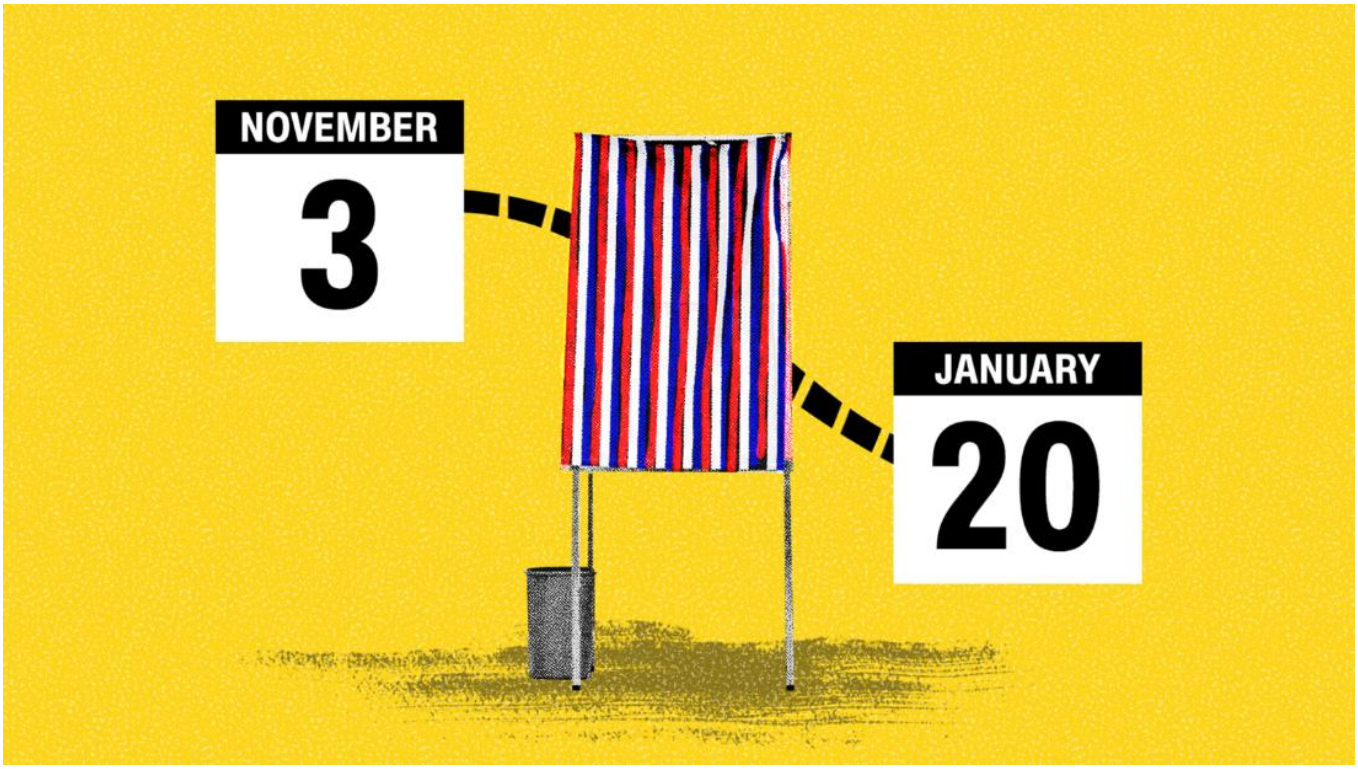

A few days ago, was the safe harbor deadline, which is the day on which states must certify the election results, sending them to congress to accept. The electoral college will meet and vote on these results next week. This is bad news for Trump and his legal team, who've lost every case and been denied by the Supreme Court most recently. Social media, as it becomes increasingly more relevant to elections and current affairs than the mainstream media, has taken on the task of curation rather than wild west platforming.

> Our goal this election was to connect people to authoritative info, limit harmful misinfo & remove violative content. Subsequently, authoritative news was widely watched & recommended, and since Sept, we removed 8K+ channels for violating our policies. Yesterday was the safe harbor deadline. Now that enough states certified their Presidential election results, we'll remove any content published today (or anytime after) that alleges widespread fraud or errors changed the 2020 U.S. Presidential election outcome. We'll also update today our election results info panel, which already surfaced under 200k+ vids and was shown 4.5b+ times. It'll note that U.S. Presidential election results are certified & link to the 2020 Electoral College Results page by the Office of the Federal Register. There's always more to do. Striking the balance between openness & responsibility is one of our toughest challenges. We're continuing to make improvements & will apply our learnings from this election, globally.

Is anyone really surprised that tech companies feel an obligation to protect the integrity of elections? The question inevitably becomes, what will they censor next? The majority of interesting people have already been kicked off the platform, in many cases for inexplicable reasons. How the platforms react going forward is anyone's guess, but mine would be the current suffering of the status quo: unequivocal guidelines, unfair censoring and the general rise of alternative platforms. Almost every conservative on YouTube has alleged widespread voter fraud. If they don't fall in line, you could see massive purges of major accounts. Will this be the term of service that breaks the camel's back?

Links

Thread: https://twitter.com/YouTubeInsider/status/1336672915132194818
Archive: https://archive.vn/cBV40

Legal fight: https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-safe-harbor-electoral-college-legal-fight
Archive: https://archive.vn/9kKpL

Safe harbor day: https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/2020-election/what-safe-harbor-day-why-it-s-bad-news-trump-n1250205
Archive: https://archive.vn/VCakp

Electoral college: https://www.npr.org/2020/12/08/942288226/bidens-victory-cemented-as-states-reach-deadline-for-certifying-vote-tallies
Archive: https://archive.vn/qSHHg

Official statement: https://blog.youtube/news-and-events/supporting-the-2020-us-election/
Archive: https://archive.vn/YTrc7